



**STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION  
DIVISION OF WATER POLLUTION CONTROL  
401 Church Street  
L&C Annex 6th Floor  
Nashville, TN 37243-1534**

August 31, 2007

Mr. Eugene I. Heller – Registered Agent  
General Homes of Columbia, LLC  
2411 Pulaski Pike  
Columbia, Tennessee 38401

**CERTIFIED MAIL**  
**RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**  
**RECEIPT #7006 0810 0000 1061 6583**

Subject: DIRECTOR'S ORDER NO. WPC07-0188  
OAK LAKE ESTATES – SECTION 10  
MAURY COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Dear Mr. Heller:

Enclosed is a Director's Order and Assessment of Civil Penalty issued by Paul E. Davis, Director of the Division of Water Pollution Control, under the delegation of Commissioner James H. Fyke. Read the Order carefully and pay special attention to the NOTICE OF RIGHTS section.

It is the Department's position that corporations, limited partnerships, limited liability companies, and other artificial entities created by law must be represented in any legal proceeding resulting from an appeal of this Order and Assessment by an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of Tennessee. Non-attorneys may participate in any such proceedings to the extent allowed by law.

If you or your attorney has questions concerning this correspondence, contact Mark Jordan at (615) 532-0675.

Sincerely,

Vojin Janjic, Manager  
Enforcement and Compliance Section

VMJ:MAJ

cc: DWPC – EFO-Columbia  
DWPC – Compliance File  
OGC



**STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION  
DIVISION OF WATER POLLUTION CONTROL  
401 Church Street  
L&C Annex 6th Floor  
Nashville, TN 37243-1534**

August 31, 2007

Mr. R. W. Hardison – Registered Agent  
Peden Construction, LLC  
506 North High Street  
Columbia, Tennessee 38401

**CERTIFIED MAIL**  
**RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**  
**RECEIPT #7006 0810 0000 1061 6545**

Subject: DIRECTOR'S ORDER NO. WPC07-0188  
OAK LAKE ESTATES – SECTION 10  
MAURY COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Dear Mr. Hardison:

Enclosed is a Director's Order and Assessment of Civil Penalty issued by Paul E. Davis, Director of the Division of Water Pollution Control, under the delegation of Commissioner James H. Fyke. Read the Order carefully and pay special attention to the NOTICE OF RIGHTS section.

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If you or your attorney has questions concerning this correspondence, contact Mark Jordan at (615) 532-0675.

Sincerely,

Vojin Janjic, Manager  
Enforcement and Compliance Section

VMJ:MAJ

cc: DWPC – EFO-Columbia  
DWPC – Compliance File  
OGC

IN THE MATTER OF:	)	
	)	
GENERAL HOMES OF COLUMBIA,	)	
LLC,	)	DIVISION OF WATER
and	)	POLLUTION CONTROL
PEDEN CONSTRUCTION, LLC	)	
	)	
RESPONDENTS	)	CASE NUMBER WPC07-0188
	)	

### III.

Peden Construction, LLC (hereinafter “Respondent Peden Construction”) is an active limited liability company licensed to conduct business in the state of Tennessee and is contracted by Respondent General Homes to conduct construction activities at the site. Service of process may be made on Respondent Peden through R.W. Hardison, Registered Agent, at 506 North High Street, Columbia, Tennessee 38401.

### JURISDICTION

### IV.

Whenever the commissioner has reason to believe that a violation of Tennessee Code Annotated (T.C.A.) § 69-3-101 *et seq.*, the Water Quality Control Act (the “Act”), has occurred, or is about to occur, the commissioner may issue a complaint to the violator and the commissioner may order corrective action be taken pursuant to T.C.A. § 69-3-109(a) of the Act. Further, the commissioner has authority to assess civil penalties against any violator of the Act, pursuant to T.C.A. § 69-3-115 of the Act; and has authority to assess damages incurred by the state resulting from the violation, pursuant to T.C.A. § 69-3-116 of the Act. Department Rules governing general water quality criteria and use classifications for surface waters have been promulgated pursuant to T.C.A. § 69-3-105 and are effective as the *Official Compilation Rules and Regulations of the State of Tennessee*, Chapters 1200-4-3 and 1200-4-4 (the “Rule”). Pursuant to T.C.A. § 69-3-107(13), the commissioner may delegate to the director any of the powers, duties, and responsibilities of the commissioner under the Act.

### V.

The Respondents are “persons” as defined by T.C.A. § 69-3-103(20) and as herein described, have violated the Act.

## VI.

Tennessee Code Annotated § 69-3-108 requires a person to obtain coverage under a permit from the department prior to discharging any substances to waters of the state, or to a location from which it is likely that the discharged substance will move into waters of the state. Coverage under the general permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activity (hereinafter the “TNCGP”) may be obtained by submittal of a Notice of Intent (NOI).

Pursuant to T.C.A. § 69-3-108, Rule 1200-4-7-.04 requires a person to submit an application prior to engaging in any activity that requires an Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit (ARAP) that is not governed by a general permit or a § 401 Water Quality Certification. No activity may be authorized unless any lost resource value associated with the proposed impact is offset by mitigation sufficient to result in no overall net loss of resource value.

## VII.

The unnamed tributary to the North Prong of Double Branch, described herein, is “waters of the state” as defined by T.C.A. § 69-3-103(33). Pursuant to T.C.A. § 69-3-105(a)(1), all waters of the state have been classified by the Tennessee Water Quality Control Board for suitable uses. Department Rule 1200-4-4, *Use Classifications for Surface Waters*, is contained in the *Rules of Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Division of Water Pollution Control Amendments*. Accordingly, these waters of the state are classified for the following uses: fish and aquatic life, recreation, irrigation, livestock watering and wildlife, industrial water supply and domestic water supply.

## **FACTS**

### **VIII.**

On May 16, 2007, the division received a NOI requesting TNCGP coverage for construction activities at the site. Mr. Tommy Davis signed the NOI as representative of Respondent General Homes. The primary contractor was not identified on the NOI. Coverage under the TNCGP was issued on May 25, 2007.

### **IX.**

On July 31, 2007, division personnel from the Columbia Environmental Field Office (CL-EFO) conducted a complaint investigation and noted that inadequate Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control (EPSC) measures had allowed eroded material to migrate into an unnamed tributary to North Prong of Double Branch downstream of the site. Additionally, a minor road crossing had been constructed over the unnamed tributary and there were no EPSC measures at the crossing. Upstream of the crossing, division personnel noted minor sediment accumulation in the unnamed tributary. A representative of Respondent Peden Construction showed division personnel a copy of the EPSC plan for the site and it was noted that the site conditions did not match those shown on the plan. Additionally, the EPSC inspection reports were not available on site. A file review indicated that Respondent Peden Construction did not have coverage under the TNCGP and that ARAP authorization had not been issued for the construction of the minor road crossing.

## **X.**

On August 7, 2007, the division issued a Notice of Violation (NOV) to the Respondents for the violations noted during the July 31, 2007, complaint investigation. In the NOV, Respondent General Homes was instructed to ensure that all operators at the site obtain coverage under the TNCGP and both Respondents were informed that written authorization for the minor road crossing had not been issued.

## **XI.**

On August 8, 2007, the division issued an amended NOC, which included Respondent Peden as the primary contractor on site.

## **XII.**

On August 20, 2007, CL-EFO personnel conducted a site inspection and noted some improvement in EPSC measures at the site. The effectiveness of these improvements was undetermined due to the lack of recent rain in the area.

## **VIOLATIONS**

## **XIII.**

By altering waters of the state without authorization under an ARAP, the Respondents have violated T.C.A. §§ 69-3-108(a)–(b), 114(b), which state in part:

§ 69-3-108(a):

Every person who is or is planning to carry on any of the activities outlined in subsection (b), other than a person who discharges into a publicly owned treatment works or who is a domestic discharger into a privately owned treatment works, or who is regulated under a general permit as described in subsection (j), shall file an application for a permit with the commissioner or, when necessary, for modification of such person's existing permit.

§ 69-3-108(b):

It is unlawful for any person, other than a person who discharges into a publicly owned treatment works or a person who is a domestic discharger into a privately owned treatment works, to carry out any of the following activities, except in accordance with the conditions of a valid permit:

- (1) The alteration of the physical, chemical, radiological, biological, or bacteriological properties of any Waters of the State;
- (4) The development of a natural resource or the construction, installation, or operation of any establishment or any extension or modification thereof or addition thereto, the operation of which will or is likely to cause an increase in the discharge of wastes into the waters of the state or would otherwise alter the physical, chemical, radiological, biological or bacteriological properties of any waters of the state in any manner not already lawfully authorized;
- (6) The discharge of sewage, industrial wastes or other wastes into waters, or a location from which it is likely that the discharged substance will move into waters;

§ 69-3-114(b):

In addition, it is unlawful for any person to act in a manner or degree which is violative of any provision of this part or of any rule, regulation, or standard of water quality promulgated by the board or of any permits or orders issued pursuant to the provisions of this part; or fail or refuse to file an application for a permit as required in § 69-3-108; or to refuse to furnish, or to falsify any records, information, plans, specifications, or other data required by the board or the Commissioner under this part.

**XIV.**

By failing to properly install and maintain erosion prevention and sediment control measures at a land disturbance activity, the activity described herein did or was likely to cause an increase in the discharge of wastes into the waters of the state. Therefore, the Respondents have violated T.C.A. Sections §§ 69-3-108(b) and 69-3-114(a)-(b) as referenced above.

**XV.**

By failing to retain sediment on site and causing a condition of pollution to North Prong of Double Branch, the Respondents have violated T. C. A. Section 69-3-114(a).



§ 69-3-114(a):

It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge any substance into the waters of the state or to place or cause any substance to be placed in any location where such substances, either by themselves or in combination with others, cause any of the damages as defined in §69-3-103(22), unless such discharge shall be due to an unavoidable accident or unless such action has been properly authorized. Any such action is declared to be a public nuisance

### **ORDER AND ASSESSMENT**

#### **XVI.**

WHEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested by T.C.A. §§ 69-3-109, 69-3-115 and 69-3-116, I, Paul E. Davis, hereby issue the following ORDER AND ASSESSMENT to the Respondents.

1. The Respondents shall, within 7 days of receipt of this ORDER, establish and maintain effective EPSC measures on-site such that sediment is not allowed to leave the site or enter waters of the state. These EPSC measures shall be maintained until such time as all land disturbance activities at the site are complete and erosion-preventive permanent cover is established
2. The Respondents shall, within 7 days of establishing effective EPSC measures, submit written documentation and photographic evidence indicating that these measures are in place. The Respondents shall submit this written documentation and photographic evidence to the Water Pollution Control Manager in the CL-EFO at 2484 Park Plus Drive, Columbia, Tennessee 38401, and a copy of the written documentation and photographic evidence to the Water Pollution Control Enforcement and Compliance

(E&C) Section Manager, at 401 Church Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor L&C Annex, Nashville, Tennessee 37243-1534.

3. The Respondents shall, within 60 days of receipt of this ORDER, submit to the division a corrective action plan (CAP) to remove the accumulated sediment from the unnamed tributary to North Prong of Double Branch. The CAP shall be prepared by a licensed professional engineer, landscape architect, or other competent professional and shall detail the manual methods to be used to remove the accumulated sediment from the affected areas downstream of the site. The Respondents shall submit the CAP to the CL-EFO for review and approval and shall submit a copy of the CAP to the E&C Section, at the respective addresses shown in item 1, above. The Respondents must correct any deficiencies the division finds upon review of the CAP and the corrected CAP should be resubmitted to the division within 30 days of notification of the deficiencies.
4. The Respondents shall, within 30 days of receipt of written approval of the CAP, initiate the approved actions. The written approval of the CAP by the division will constitute authorization for sediment removal from the affected areas downstream of the site and no additional ARAP coverage is required. The Respondents shall submit written notification to the division that work has begun at the time the Respondents initiates the CAP. The Respondents shall submit the written notification to the CL-EFO and shall submit a copy of the written notification to the E&C Section, at the respective addresses shown in item 2, above.
5. The Respondents shall, within 90 days of initiating the approved CAP, but not later than February 28, 2008, complete the CAP and submit written notification of completion to the division. The Respondents shall submit the written notification to the CL-EFO and

shall submit a copy of the written notification to the E&C Section, at the respective addresses shown in item 2, above

6. The Respondents shall pay a CIVIL PENALTY of TWENTY FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$24,000.00) to the division, hereby ASSESSED to be paid as follows:

a. The Respondents shall, within 30 days of entry of this ORDER, pay a CIVIL PENALTY in the amount of SIX THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$6,000.00).

b. If the Respondents fail to comply with Part XVI, item 1 above in a timely manner, the Respondents shall pay a CIVIL PENALTY in the amount of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$5,000.00), payable within 30 days of default.

c. If the Respondents fail to comply with Part XVI, item 2 above in a timely manner, the Respondents shall pay a CIVIL PENALTY in the amount of THREE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS (\$3,250.00), payable within 30 days of default.

d. If the Respondents fail to comply with Part XVI, item 3 above in a timely manner, the Respondents shall pay a CIVIL PENALTY in the amount of THREE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS (\$3,250.00), payable within 30 days of default.

e. If the Respondents fail to comply with Part XVI, item 4 above in a timely manner, the Respondents shall pay a CIVIL PENALTY in the amount of THREE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS (\$3,250.00), payable within 30 days of default.

f. If the Respondents fail to comply with Part XVI, item 5 above in a timely manner, the Respondents shall pay a CIVIL PENALTY in the amount of THREE THOUSAND


TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS (\$3,250.00), payable within 30 days of default.

The Respondents shall otherwise conduct business in accordance with the Act and rules promulgated pursuant to the Act.

The director may, for good cause shown, extend the compliance dates contained within this ORDER. In order to be eligible for this time extension, the Respondents shall submit a written request to be received in advance of the compliance date. The written request must include sufficient detail to justify such an extension and include at a minimum the anticipated length of the delay, the precise cause or causes of the delay, and all preventive measures taken to minimize the delay. Any such extension by the division will be in writing. Should the Respondents fail to meet the requirement by the extended date, any associated Civil Penalty shall become due 30 days thereafter.

Further, the Respondents are advised that the foregoing ORDER is in no way to be construed as a waiver, expressed or implied, of any provision of the law or regulations. However, compliance with the ORDER will be one factor considered in any decision whether to take enforcement action against the Respondent in the future.

Issued by the director of the Division of Water Pollution Control on behalf of the Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation on this 13<sup>th</sup> day of September 2007.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul E. Davis, P.E.  
Director, Division of Water Pollution Control

## **NOTICE OF RIGHTS**

Tennessee Code Annotated §§ 69-3-109, 115, allow any Respondent named herein to secure review of this Order and Assessment. In order to secure review of this Order and Assessment, the Respondent must file with the Department's Office of General Counsel a written petition setting forth each of the Respondent's contentions and requesting a hearing before the Water Quality Control Board. The Respondent must file the written petition within thirty (30) days of receiving this Order and Assessment. The petition should be sent to: "Appeal of Enforcement Order, TDEC-OGC, 20th Floor L & C Tower, 401 Church Street, Nashville, TN 37243-1548".

If the required written petition is not filed within thirty (30) days of receipt of this ORDER AND ASSESSMENT, the ORDER AND ASSESSMENT shall become final and will be considered as an agreement to entry of a judgment by consent. Consequently, the ORDER AND ASSESSMENT will not be subject to review pursuant to T.C.A. §§ 69-3-109 and 69-3-115.

Any hearing of this case before the Water Quality Control Board for which a Respondent properly petitions is a contested case hearing governed by T.C.A. § 4-5-301 *et seq.* (the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act.) and the Department of State's Uniform Rules of Procedure for Hearing Contested Cases Before State Administrative Agencies. The hearing is in the nature of a trial before the Board sitting with an Administrative Law Judge. The Respondent may subpoena witnesses on its behalf to testify.

If the Respondent is an individual, the Respondent may either obtain legal counsel representation in this matter, both in filing its written petition and in presenting evidence at the hearing, or proceed without an attorney. Low-income individuals may be eligible for representation at no cost or reduced cost through a local bar association or legal aid organization.

Payment of the civil penalty shall be made to "Treasurer, State of Tennessee" and shall be sent to the Division of Fiscal Services, Consolidated Fees Section, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor L & C Annex, 401 Church Street, Nashville, TN 37243. The case number, shown on the first page of this Order and Assessment, should be included on or with the payment. All other correspondence shall be sent to Paul E. Davis, Director, Division of Water Pollution Control, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor L & C Annex, 401 Church Street, Nashville, TN 37243.